



# Daily PIB Summary

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## 1. THE DEFENCE DECADE



### Key Highlights

- Emphasis on **Atmanirbhar Bharat** in defence manufacturing.
- Significant increase in indigenous defence production and exports.
- Modernization of the Armed Forces.
- Promotion of private sector participation and innovation.
- Development of advanced indigenous defence platforms and technologies.

## MAJOR INITIATIVES

### Atmanirbhar Bharat in Defence

- Focus on reducing dependence on defence imports.
- Encourages indigenous design, development, and manufacturing.

### Positive Indigenisation Lists

- Notified by the **Ministry of Defence**.
- Specify defence equipment to be procured only from domestic sources after stipulated timelines.

## Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP), 2020

- Gives preference to indigenous procurement.
- Promotes participation of Indian industry and startups.

## Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)

- Encourages innovation by startups, MSMEs, and academia.
- Supports development of cutting-edge defence technologies.

## Defence Industrial Corridors

- I. Established in:
  - A. Uttar Pradesh
  - B. Tamil Nadu
- II. Aim to strengthen defence manufacturing ecosystems.

## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

### Defence Production

- Record growth in indigenous defence manufacturing.
- Greater participation of the private sector.

### Defence Exports

- India has emerged as a significant exporter of defence equipment to multiple countries.

### Modern Indigenous Platforms

- LCA Tejas.

- INS Vikrant.
- Akash Missile System.
- BrahMos.
- Indigenous artillery systems, drones, and surveillance technologies.

- Need for higher investment in defence R&D.
- Global competition in defence exports.
- Supply chain vulnerabilities.

## SIGNIFICANCE

### National Security

- Enhances operational preparedness and strategic autonomy.

### Economic Growth

- Promotes manufacturing, employment, and technology development.

### Strategic Autonomy

- Reduces dependence on foreign defence imports.

### Global Competitiveness

- Positions India as a reliable defence manufacturing and export hub.

### Innovation Ecosystem

- Encourages startups and MSMEs to develop advanced defence technologies.

## CHALLENGES

- Dependence on imports for certain critical technologies.
- Long gestation periods for defence projects.

## WAY FORWARD

- Increase investment in defence research and innovation.
- Strengthen public-private partnerships.
- Expand indigenous manufacturing capabilities.
- Enhance export competitiveness.
- Promote advanced technologies such as AI, cyber, space, and unmanned systems.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Atmanirbhar Bharat in Defence.
- **Major Policies:** Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP), 2020; Positive Indigenisation Lists; iDEX.
- **Industrial Corridors:** Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- **Goal:** Self-reliance, modernization, and global competitiveness.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP), 2020**
  - A. Replaced the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), 2016.
  - B. Prioritizes procurement from indigenous sources under categories such as **Buy (Indian-IDD)**.

- II. **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)**
- Launched in **2018**.
  - Managed by the **Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO)** under the **Ministry of Defence**.
  - Supports startups, MSMEs, innovators, and academia in developing defence technologies.
- III. **Defence Industrial Corridors**
- Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor:**
    - Nodes: **Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Aligarh, Jhansi, and Chitrakoot.**
  - Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor:**
    - Nodes: **Chennai, Coimbatore, Salem, Hosur, and Tiruchirappalli.**
- IV. **Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO)**
- A not-for-profit company established to implement the **iDEX** framework and foster innovation in the defence sector.

- India has established Defence Industrial Corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

## 2. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMITTED TO STRENGTHEN A SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND EMPOWERED ECOSYSTEM FOR WOMEN



## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP), 2020 replaced the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), 2016.
- Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) was launched to promote innovation by startups, MSMEs, and academia in the defence sector.

### Key Highlights

- Focus on **women-led development**.
- Strengthening women's:
  - Safety and security.
  - Education.
  - Health and nutrition.
  - Financial inclusion.
  - Entrepreneurship.

- F. Political and economic participation.
- III. Promotes gender equality and inclusive growth under the vision of **Viksit Bharat @ 2047**.

## MAJOR GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

### Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)

- Launched in **2015**.
- Aims to improve the child sex ratio and promote education and empowerment of the girl child.

### Mission Shakti

- I. Umbrella scheme for women's safety, protection, and empowerment.
- II. Comprises:
  - A. **Sambal** – Safety and security.
  - B. **Samarthya** – Empowerment and welfare.

### Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)

- Provides cash assistance to eligible pregnant and lactating women to support maternal health and nutrition.

### Lakshpati Didi Scheme

- Promotes women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to achieve an annual household income of at least ₹1 lakh through sustainable livelihoods.

### One Stop Centre Scheme

- Provides integrated support to women affected by violence, including legal, medical, psychological, and temporary shelter services.

### Women Helpline (181)

- Offers 24×7 emergency support and information services for women in distress.

## LEGAL & INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES

- Strengthening implementation of laws relating to women's safety.
- Promotion of gender-responsive governance.
- Expansion of institutional support services such as One Stop Centres and Women Helplines.
- Encouraging women's participation in decision-making and leadership.

## SIGNIFICANCE

### Gender Equality

- Promotes equal opportunities and rights for women.

### Economic Empowerment

- Encourages entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, and livelihood generation.

### Social Development

- Improves education, health, nutrition, and overall well-being.

## Women's Safety

- Strengthens institutional mechanisms for protection and justice.

## Inclusive Growth

- Enhances women's participation in nation-building and economic development.

## CHALLENGES

- Gender-based violence and discrimination.
- Gaps in workforce participation.
- Unequal access to education and digital resources.
- Socio-cultural barriers to women's empowerment.
- Need for stronger implementation of welfare schemes.

## WAY FORWARD

- Expand skill development and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Improve access to quality education and healthcare.
- Strengthen institutional mechanisms for women's safety.
- Promote digital and financial literacy.
- Encourage greater representation of women in leadership and governance.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Women-led development.
- **Priority Areas:** Safety, education, health, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and leadership.
- **Major Schemes:** Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Mission Shakti, PMMVY, Lakhpati Didi, One Stop Centre Scheme.
- **Vision:** Safe, inclusive, and empowered ecosystem for women.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Mission Shakti**
  - A. Umbrella scheme of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
  - B. Two components:
    1. **Sambal** – Women's safety and security.
    2. **Samarthya** – Women's empowerment and welfare.
- II. **One Stop Centre (OSC) Scheme**
  - A. Provides integrated support to women affected by violence.
  - B. Services include **medical assistance, legal aid, police facilitation, psychosocial counselling, and temporary shelter**.
- III. **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)**
  - A. Launched in **2015**.
  - B. Joint initiative of:
    1. **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
    2. **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.
    3. **Ministry of Education**.

- IV. **Lakhpati Didi**
- A. Aims to enable women associated with **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** to earn **at least ₹1 lakh annually** through diversified livelihood activities and enterprise development.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- Mission Shakti is an umbrella scheme for women's safety and empowerment implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- The One Stop Centre Scheme provides integrated support, including legal aid, medical assistance, and counselling to women affected by violence.
- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is jointly implemented by the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, and Education.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

## 3. RESEARCHERS TRACKING AIR QUALITY RISKS IN THE HIMALAYA IDENTIFY SHIFT FROM CLEAN TO POLLUTED AIR



### Key Highlights

- Air quality in the Central Himalaya is deteriorating.
- Polluted air is increasingly replacing the region's traditionally clean atmosphere.
- Major contributors include:
  - Long-range transport of pollutants from the Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP).
  - Vehicular emissions.
  - Biomass burning.
  - Industrial activities.
  - Urbanization.
- Findings underscore the need for continuous mountain air quality monitoring.

## KEY FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

### Shift in Air Mass Characteristics

- Researchers observed more frequent episodes of polluted air replacing clean mountain air.

## Role of the Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP)

- Pollutants are transported to the Himalayas through atmospheric circulation, especially during certain seasons.

## Major Pollutants

- Fine particulate matter (**PM<sub>2.5</sub>**).
- Black Carbon (BC).
- Aerosols.
- Ozone and other trace gases.

## Environmental Impact

- Accelerated glacier melting due to black carbon deposition.
- Reduced visibility.
- Adverse effects on ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Increased health risks for mountain communities.

## WHY THE HIMALAYA IS IMPORTANT

### Himalaya

### Ecological Importance

- Known as the "**Water Tower of Asia**".
- Source of major perennial rivers such as the **Ganga, Brahmaputra**, and **Indus**.
- Supports rich biodiversity and fragile mountain ecosystems.

### Climate Regulation

- Influences the Indian monsoon.
- Acts as a climatic barrier.

- Stores vast quantities of freshwater in glaciers.

## BLACK CARBON

### What is Black Carbon?

- A component of **PM<sub>2.5</sub>** produced by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biomass, and diesel.

### Sources

- Biomass burning.
- Diesel vehicles.
- Forest fires.
- Coal combustion.

### Impacts

- Absorbs solar radiation, contributing to atmospheric warming.
- Deposits on snow and ice, reducing albedo and accelerating glacier melt.
- Adversely affects respiratory and cardiovascular health.

## SIGNIFICANCE

### Climate Change

- Accelerates glacier retreat and alters regional hydrology.

### Water Security

- Threatens long-term water availability for millions downstream.

## Public Health

- Increases respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

## Biodiversity Conservation

- Affects sensitive mountain ecosystems and species.

## Disaster Risk

- Glacier retreat can increase the risk of **Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs)**.

## CHALLENGES

- Long-range transport of pollutants across regions.
- Rapid urbanization in Himalayan towns.
- Inadequate air quality monitoring in mountain regions.
- Climate change amplifying pollution impacts.

## WAY FORWARD

- Expand high-altitude air quality monitoring networks.
- Reduce emissions from transport, industry, and biomass burning.
- Strengthen regional cooperation for air pollution control.
- Promote clean energy and sustainable mountain development.
- Integrate air quality management with climate adaptation strategies.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Finding:** Shift from clean to polluted air in the Central Himalaya.
- **Major Source:** Long-range transport from the Indo-Gangetic Plain.
- **Key Pollutants:** PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Black Carbon, aerosols.
- **Major Concern:** Glacier melting, ecosystem degradation, and health impacts.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Black Carbon (BC)**
  - A. A short-lived climate pollutant produced by incomplete combustion.
  - B. Contributes to global warming and accelerates glacier melt by reducing snow albedo.
- II. **PM<sub>2.5</sub>**
  - A. Particulate matter with a diameter of **2.5 micrometres or less**.
  - B. Can penetrate deep into the lungs and bloodstream, posing serious health risks.
- III. **Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP)**
  - A. One of the world's most densely populated and agriculturally productive regions.
  - B. Frequently experiences severe air pollution due to vehicular emissions, industries, crop residue burning, and biomass combustion.
- IV. **Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)**
  - A. Sudden release of water from a glacial lake due to failure of the natural dam.

- B. A major climate-related hazard in the Himalayan region.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Black Carbon is produced primarily by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and biomass.
2. Deposition of Black Carbon on snow reduces surface albedo and accelerates glacier melting.
3. PM<sub>2.5</sub> refers to particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

## 4. SECRETARY, DAE & CHAIRMAN, AEC VISITS TARAPUR ATOMIC POWER STATION; COMMENDS THE CONTINUING LEGACY OF THE WORLD'S OLDEST RUNNING POWER REACTORS



### Key Highlights

- I. Secretary, DAE & Chairman, AEC reviewed the functioning of Tarapur Atomic Power Station.
- II. Appreciated the plant's:
  - A. Long operational legacy.
  - B. Strong safety culture.
  - C. High plant availability and reliability.
  - D. Contribution to India's clean energy goals.
- III. Reiterated the importance of nuclear energy in ensuring India's long-term energy security and low-carbon development.

## ABOUT TARAPUR ATOMIC POWER STATION (TAPS)

**Tarapur Atomic Power Station**

**Location**

- Tarapur, Palghar district, Maharashtra.

## Commissioned

- 1969.

## Operator

- Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL).

## Reactor Units

- I. **Units 1 & 2**
  - A. **Boiling Water Reactors (BWRs).**
  - B. Among the **world's oldest operating commercial nuclear reactors.**
- II. **Units 3 & 4**
  - A. **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).**
  - B. Indigenous reactor design.

# INDIA'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME

## Nodal Department

- Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

## Regulatory Authority

- Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

## Major Objectives

- Ensure energy security.
- Reduce carbon emissions.
- Promote indigenous nuclear technology.
- Support sustainable economic growth.

# THREE-STAGE NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME

## Stage I

- **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)** using **natural uranium.**

## Stage II

- **Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs)** using **plutonium-based fuel.**

## Stage III

- **Thorium-based reactors** utilizing India's abundant thorium reserves.

# SIGNIFICANCE

## Energy Security

- Provides reliable base-load electricity generation.

## Clean Energy

- Produces low greenhouse gas emissions during operation.

## Technological Self-Reliance

- Demonstrates India's indigenous capabilities in nuclear technology.

## Climate Commitments

- Supports India's transition to a low-carbon energy mix.

## Operational Excellence

- TAPS showcases long-term safe operation of nuclear power plants.

## CHALLENGES

- High capital costs.
- Nuclear waste management.
- Public concerns regarding nuclear safety.
- Long project gestation periods.
- Fuel supply and infrastructure requirements.

## WAY FORWARD

- Expand indigenous PHWR capacity.
- Accelerate deployment of Fast Breeder and thorium-based technologies.
- Strengthen nuclear safety and regulatory oversight.
- Promote public awareness on the role of nuclear energy in clean energy transition.
- Enhance research in advanced reactor technologies, including Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Power Station:** Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS).
- **Location:** Palghar, Maharashtra.
- **Commissioned:** 1969.
- **Operator:** Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL).
- **Significance:** Home to the world's oldest operating commercial nuclear power reactors.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS)**
  - A. India's **first commercial nuclear power station**.
  - B. Commissioned in **1969**.
  - C. Located in **Maharashtra**.
  - D. Operated by **NPCIL**.
- II. **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**
  - A. Established in **1954**.
  - B. Functions directly under the **Prime Minister's Office (PMO)**.
  - C. Responsible for nuclear energy, atomic research, and related strategic programmes.
- III. **Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)**
  - A. Established in **1948**.
  - B. Formulates policies related to atomic energy in India.
  - C. The **Secretary, DAE** also serves as the **Chairman of the AEC**.
- IV. **India's Three-Stage Nuclear Power Programme**
  - A. Conceived by **Homi Jehangir Bhabha**.
  - B. Aims to maximize utilization of India's limited uranium and abundant thorium resources through a phased nuclear fuel cycle.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Tarapur Atomic Power Station is India's first commercial nuclear power station.
2. The Department of Atomic Energy functions directly under the Prime Minister's Office.

3. India's three-stage nuclear power programme was conceived by Homi Jehangir Bhabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

## 5. WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT CELEBRATED ACROSS WDC-PMKSY 2.0 PROJECT AREAS



### Key Highlights

- I. Observed on **17 June** across WDC-PMKSY 2.0 project areas.
- II. Activities included:
  - A. Tree plantation drives.
  - B. Awareness campaigns.
  - C. Water conservation initiatives.
  - D. Soil conservation measures.

- E. Community participation programmes.
- III. Reinforced India's commitment to **land restoration** and **sustainable natural resource management**.

## ABOUT WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

### World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

#### Observed On

- **17 June** every year.

#### Established By

- **United Nations General Assembly** in **1994**.

#### Objective

- I. Raise awareness about:
  - A. Desertification.
  - B. Land degradation.
  - C. Drought.
- II. Promote sustainable land management and ecosystem restoration.

## ABOUT WDC-PMKSY 2.0

### Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0)

#### Nodal Ministry

- **Department of Land Resources**

- **Ministry of Rural Development**

## Objectives

- Restore degraded lands.
- Improve soil moisture.
- Enhance groundwater recharge.
- Increase agricultural productivity.
- Strengthen climate resilience.
- Improve rural livelihoods.

## Major Activities

- Watershed treatment.
- Afforestation.
- Rainwater harvesting.
- Check dams and farm ponds.
- Soil conservation.
- Pasture development.

## WHAT IS DESERTIFICATION?

### Desertification

#### Definition

- Desertification refers to **land degradation in arid, semi-arid, and dry sub-humid areas**, caused by climatic variations and human activities.

#### Major Causes

- Deforestation.
- Overgrazing.
- Unsustainable agricultural practices.
- Soil erosion.
- Climate change.
- Water scarcity.

## SIGNIFICANCE

## Environmental Conservation

- Restores degraded ecosystems.

## Water Security

- Enhances groundwater recharge and water availability.

## Climate Resilience

- Reduces vulnerability to droughts and extreme weather events.

## Agricultural Productivity

- Improves soil health and crop yields.

## Livelihood Security

- Supports sustainable livelihoods in rural and drought-prone areas.

## CHALLENGES

- Increasing frequency of droughts due to climate change.
- Land degradation and soil erosion.
- Overexploitation of groundwater.
- Unsustainable land-use practices.
- Limited community awareness in vulnerable regions.

## WAY FORWARD

- Scale up watershed development programmes.
- Promote climate-resilient agriculture.
- Encourage community-led natural resource management.
- Strengthen afforestation and soil conservation efforts.

- Improve monitoring using geospatial technologies.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Occasion:** World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought.
- **Date:** 17 June.
- **Major Programme:** WDC–PMKSY 2.0.
- **Focus:** Land restoration, watershed development, water conservation, and sustainable agriculture.
- **Nodal Department:** Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

### I. **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**

- A. Adopted in **1994** and entered into force in **1996**.
- B. One of the three **Rio Conventions**, alongside the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** and the **Convention on Biological Diversity**.
- C. Aims to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through sustainable land management.

### II. **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)**

- A. A global goal under the UNCCD to **balance land degradation with restoration**, ensuring no net loss of healthy and productive land.

### III. **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**

- A. Launched in **2015**.

- B. Seeks to improve irrigation efficiency under the motto "**Har Khet Ko Pani**" and promote "**Per Drop More Crop**".

### IV. **Watershed Development**

- A. An integrated approach to conserving **soil, water, and vegetation** within a drainage basin to improve ecological sustainability and agricultural productivity.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed annually on 17 June.
2. WDC–PMKSY 2.0 is implemented by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development.
3. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is one of the three Rio Conventions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**